

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 13271 151917Z

72

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 AID-20 CCO-00 FBO-01 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NIC-01 NSC-10 SPC-03 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-04

USSS-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-20 SY-10

SCS-03 PC-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-15 DRC-01

/156 W

----- 005449

R 150600Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7913

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, PINS

SUBJECT: DISTURBANCE IN JAMMU

REF: NEW DELHI 13143

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE STUDENT RIOTS IN THE PREDOMINANTLY MUSLIM KASHMIR VALLEY LAST WEEK HAVE NOW BEEN FOLLOWED BY COUNTER DISTURBANCES BY STUDENTS IN THE PREDOMINANTLY HINDU JAMMU PORTION OF THE STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR. WE UNDERSTAND THE MILITANT NATIONALIST, PRO-HINDU JANA SANGH IS BEHIND THE JAMMU RIOTS. THE PRESS SAYS 200 POLICEMEN WERE INJURED IN THE JAMMU DISTURBANCES NOVEMBER 14, WHICH INCLUDED STONING AND ARSON, AND THE ARMY HAS BEEN ALERTED FOR POSSIBLE USE.

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2. COMMENT: THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE VALLEY AGAINST

THE RENAMING OF A COLLEGE IN HONOR OF JAWAHARLAL NEHRU
ARE ONLY THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF THE RIOTING IN JAMMU.
PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT IS THE INCREASING INFLUENCE OF
THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSLIMS OF THE VALLEY, SHEIKH
ABDULLAH, WITH THE CONGRESS GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE.
HE HAS CHANGED HIS POSITION SINCE 1971 AND NOW SAYS
THAT HIS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE GOI IS NOT ABOUT THE
1947 ACCESSION OF THE STATE TO INDIA BUT ONLY ITS DEGREE
OF AUTONOMY WITH INDIA. AN INCREASED VOICE FOR SHEIKH
ABDULLAH, POSSIBLY IN A STATE LESS TIGHTLY UNDER CENTRAL
GOVERNMENT CONTROL, MEANS LESS POWER FOR THE HINDUS OF
JAMMU. THE JANA SANGH HAS EXPLOITED THIS ISSUE IN JAMMU
IN THE PAST AND SEEMS TO BE DOING SO AGAIN. WE DOUBT
DELHI WILL LET MATTERS GET OUT OF HAND, AND WIRE
SERVICES OF NOVEMBER 15 REPORT "TENSE CALM" PREVAILS
IN JAMMU.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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